

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed March 14, 2005, has been received and reviewed. Claims 1-15 are currently pending in the application. Claims 1-15 stand rejected. Applicants have amended claims 1-15 as set forth herein, and respectfully request reconsideration of the application as amended herein. No new matter has been added.

35 U.S.C. § 102(b) Anticipation Rejections

Anticipation Rejection Based on WO 97/01865 to Yaguchi et al.

Claims 1-13 and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as assertedly being anticipated by Yaguchi et al. (WO 97/01865). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection, as hereinafter set forth.

A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference. *Verdegaal Brothers v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987). The identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the claim. *Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co.*, 9 USPQ2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989).

Yaguchi et al. does not disclose each and every element of any of amended claims 1-13 and 15 as required for anticipation. For instance, Yaguchi et al. does not disclose a semiconductor device assembly comprising a carrier substrate comprising a substantially planar structure with a surface including at least one first contact area thereon, proximate at least one opening formed through the carrier substrate, and a solder mask comprising at least one opening through which the at least one opening and the at least one first contact area of the carrier substrate are exposed, wherein the carrier substrate comprises an insulative material as recited in amended claim 1.

The Office Action indicated that “Yaguchi *et al.* (WO 97/01865) discloses a semiconductor device assembly [Figure 18G] comprising a carrier substrate.” Office Action, page 2. However, the carrier substrate of Yaguchi et al. is a lead frame with internal leads (i.e., a multiple-string type like lead frame) used to that electrically connect electrodes. *See, WO 97/01865*, pages 7, 19, 32 and Abstract. Thus, the applicants respectfully submit that the lead

frame of Yaguchi et al. is not made of an insulative material as recited in amended claim 1. Accordingly, amended claim 1 cannot be anticipated.

Dependent claims 2-13 and 15 depend directly or indirectly from amended, independent claim 1 and, thus, include the elements of amended, claim 1. Since Yaguchi et al. does not disclose each and every element of amended, independent claim 1, it also cannot anticipated dependent claims 2-13 and 15.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the anticipation rejections of claims 1-13 and 15 are requested.

35 U.S.C. § 103(a) Obviousness Rejections

Obviousness Rejection Based on WO 97/01865 to Yaguchi in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,181,984 to Matsumura et al.

Claim 14 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as assertedly being unpatentable over Yaguchi et al. (WO 97/01865) in view of Matsumura et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,181,984). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection, as hereinafter set forth.

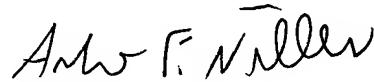
The nonobviousness of independent claim 1 precludes a rejection of claim 14 which depends therefrom because a dependent claim is obvious only if the independent claim from which it depends is obvious. *See In re Fine*, 5 U.S.P.Q.2d 1596, 1600 (Fed. Cir. 1988), *see also* MPEP § 2143.03. Therefore, the applicants request that the Examiner withdraw the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) obviousness rejection to claim 14 which depends from nonobvious independent claim 1.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the obviousness rejection of claim 14 are requested.

CONCLUSION

Claims 1-15 are believed to be in condition for allowance, and an early notice thereof is respectfully solicited. Should the Examiner determine that additional issues remain which might be resolved by a telephone conference, he is respectfully invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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